William R. Cutler

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM
CONNECTICUT

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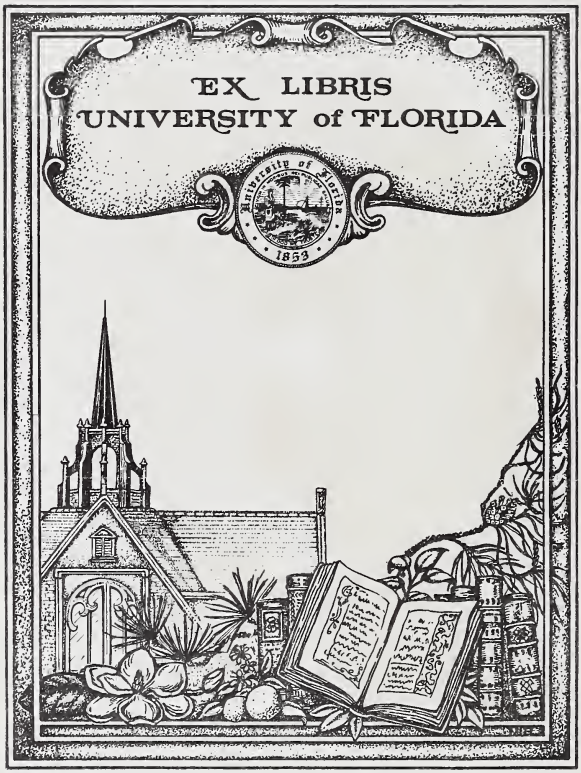
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Memorial Services

Held in the House of Representatives and Senate of the United States, together with tributes presented in eulogy of

William R. Cotter

Late a Representative from Connecticut

Ninety-seventh Congress
First Session

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
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Biography

WILLIAM ROSS COTTER was born in Hartford, Conn., July 18, 1926; attended the public schools; B.A., Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., 1949; member, Court of Common Council, city of Hartford, 1953; aide to Gov. Abraham Ribicoff, 1955–57; Deputy Insurance Commissioner, State of Connecticut, 1957–64; Insurance Commissioner, 1964–70; delegate to Connecticut State Democratic Conventions, 1954–70; delegate to Democratic National Conventions, 1964 and 1968; elected as a Democrat to the 92d Congress, November 3, 1970; reelected to the five succeeding Congresses and served from January 3, 1971, until his death in East Lyme, Conn., September 8, 1981; was a resident of Hartford, Conn.; interment in Mount Saint Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield, Conn.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

FOR

WILLIAM R. COTTER

Proceedings in the House

WEDNESDAY, *September 9, 1981.*

Mr. MOFFETT. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution on the death of the Honorable WILLIAM R. COTTER.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

HOUSE RESOLUTION 206

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable WILLIAM R. COTTER, a Representative from the State of Connecticut.

Resolved, That a committee of such Members of the House as the Speaker may designate, together with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. Moffett) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. MOFFETT. Mr. Speaker, at this time I have the sad duty to announce to my colleagues the death of WILLIAM ROSS COTTER, and I join with the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. McKinney), if he could join me in the well, to make a few comments and to recognize our colleagues for a similar purpose.

WILLIAM ROSS COTTER was born on July 18, 1926, in Hartford. He was a Hartford person clear through and loved that city. He went to Trinity College. He graduated from Trinity. He was a city councilor, a very active member of the Democratic Party in the city of Hartford,

an aide to our recent and great Senator, Abraham Ribicoff. He also, as all of us know, was a valued Member of the House and of the congressional delegation.

Mr. Speaker, I just have one final comment: It is simply that BILL COTTER was a low key, very quiet man, very unassuming, and unpretentious. He loved this House very much.

Mr. Speaker, he had a great deal of love and admiration for the Speaker and for this House. He really wanted nothing more in life than to serve his constituents in Hartford and in the greater Hartford area, and it is a tragedy that he was taken from our State and from this body at such a young age.

Mr. McKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, BILL COTTER and I came to this body together in January of 1971. From that day forward I think BILL had always been one of my closest friends. BILL was, I guess, in the vernacular of the world today seemingly "laid back," seemingly quiet, and yet I never knew of a man who cared more about where this country was going and the obligation that he had to try and help get it there.

I remember an anecdote one day that to me expressed BILL COTTER and the way he really was. We were standing, as we so often do, out here on the steps, just looking at the good weather, and this very young choral group, from somewhere in our Nation, singing on the steps, and as usual being ignored by the traffic and by everyone else when BILL looked down at them in the midst of our discussing taxes, which was his committee, and he said to me, he said:

Stew, I wonder if we really know what we are doing to those kids.

That was BILL COTTER.

He cared deeply. I know on my part that this House, this body, will never be the same for me without BILL. BILL put friendship above partisanship. I can remember the times that he used to be asked into my district during a campaign and that he would simply turn around and say:

I will not go; we do not do that in our State.

I think that the people of the State of Connecticut have had two grievous losses in the last 2 years, a wonderful ex-colleague of ours in Gov. Ella Grasso and now BILL COTTER.

BILL loved the people of the State. He will be missed by the politicians and he will be publicly mourned by the politicians, but

in essence the people who are going to miss what BILL COTTER was, are the people of the State of Connecticut, the people about whom he cared above and beyond any other subject.

Mr. Speaker, I know of the gentleman's closeness to BILL and I know that the Speaker feels what we are feeling, and I hope that everyone will realize that we did not lose a politician, we lost a friend and a great man.

Mr. RATCHFORD. Mr. Speaker, and this especially applies to my colleagues: How do you say goodby to a friend?

BILL COTTER was exactly that to me.

I was first elected to the Connecticut General Assembly in 1962, and from then until now, our relationship has been a close, a meaningful, warm one. During that entire period of time this gracious, thoughtful, decent human being was involved in Connecticut's government. He truly was a product of the grassroots. He bragged about getting involved in Hartford politics with the then Hartford city chairman, John Bailey, who went on to become State and national chairman. He drove all over the State of Connecticut with his close friend John Bailey.

When we think of Connecticut politics, we think of BILL COTTER. We think of his involvement at the city level, as commissioner of insurance for the State of Connecticut, of his relationship with our giants in Connecticut government, John Dempsey and Ella Grasso. We know him also as someone who gave a decade as treasurer of his party, the Democratic Party; and as someone who came to the Halls of Congress quiet, considerate, thoughtful, unassuming, but above all, consistently always decent.

His government, his politics, were personal politics, personal government. He reached out and touched people whether it was a doorkeeper or a Congressman or a President of the United States. BILL COTTER could communicate.

Day after day his life was a life of helping people and today as we think of that life, as we think of that involvement, as we think of that dedication to public service, we know full well that our lives are better for his involvement. As one who was very much touched by this thoughtful and decent man, can I say to BILL COTTER, thank you for this commitment, thank you for this meaningful life, thank you from all of us that you have helped so much. Goodby old buddy, we will miss you.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I personally feel very honored to have known BILL. As a freshman in Congress, I found BILL COTTER to be an extremely helpful guide and mentor. He was straightforward and sincere, but never was without a sense of humor. He was a man who was always willing to take the time to help show someone else the ropes.

One of my first memories as a Congressman is of BILL COTTER, swearing me into Congress before a group of constituents on Capitol Hill, telling me what a rewarding experience I was going to have. From then on, no matter how busy he was, he was always available for advice and suggestions.

BILL did not care about making the limelight: He only cared about being a good Representative, one who was both concerned and effective. He led a life dedicated to public service and wanted nothing more than to do justice to his office.

A great Congressman, BILL well deserved the respect he acquired over the years from his colleagues. We will all miss his quiet integrity, his thoughtfulness, and his assistance. I deeply regret that I was able to work with BILL for so short a time.

Mr. DENARDIS. Mr. Speaker, over the years BILL COTTER and I had seen our relationship grow into one of mutual interest and respect. We shared a love of the legislative process; born in Connecticut where he served as insurance commissioner as I was seeking political office. Although we were of different political parties, I was always impressed with his courteous sense of fairness and his willingness to listen and to help.

BILL was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives the same year I was elected to the Connecticut State Senate. On many visits to Washington, we met and discussed Connecticut affairs and matters of concern to our mutual constituency. He was always articulate, helpful, and available to listen.

Shortly after my own election to Congress in November of 1980, I heard from BILL COTTER. He offered himself and his staff to assist me in any way possible. I wisely took advantage of that offer and, during the period between the election and my inauguration, spoke with him often. I learned much.

Before BILL's illness, we met regularly on the floor to discuss issues and politics, legislative procedures, people, and problems. He was always helpful to me, a freshman legislator, and always concerned about me and the people I represent.

Perhaps one of his warmest gestures toward me was his appearance at a private very exciting gathering of my friends and supporters held in the Capitol right after I was sworn in as a Congressman. It was certainly an emotional day for me and my family. The visit by the senior Member of the Connecticut delegation although, as I have said, he was not of my party, left an impression not only on me but on all in attendance. It was a warm and caring gesture by a man whose record proves him to have been a warm and caring man who dedicated his life to the people of Connecticut and most especially to all of those who also cared and served our people.

The First Congressional District of Connecticut wisely returned BILL COTTER to office each time he sought their support. He will be missed by them and by all of us who were helped by him and who knew him for the considerate, thoughtful, wise, and compassionate person he always was.

Mr. ROSTENKOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my gratitude to the gentleman from Connecticut for taking this time to pay tribute to his colleague from Connecticut.

There was probably no one closer in the Congress today to me than BILL COTTER. BILL had the knack of being a quiet legislator. He did not grab for headlines. Instead, he spent his years in Washington representing the people and region where he was raised with quiet sensitivity.

Born and raised in Frog Hollow, a Hartford neighborhood known for its political life, BILL was seasoned in the State house and later rose to become Connecticut's insurance commissioner before coming to Congress a decade ago.

BILL came to the Ways and Means Committee in 1975, with the reform wave that gathered after Watergate. Yet his counsel was moderate. I can remember his voice raised only once—advocating energy assistance to the elderly in his hard-hit region of New England. He chose his legislative issues with care and, like his fight to extend the investment tax credit to inner-city renovation, they most often reflected his concern for the working family living in a difficult time.

His most recent, and perhaps his greatest, legislative success was the expansion of the individual retirement accounts (IRA's) in the Economic Recovery Act just signed by the President.

Long ago, BILL recognized that most Americans reached retirement underinsured. Private pension plans had too often collapsed,

or been diluted. Transferability was a constant hazard. Social security was never meant to meet the entire needs of retired working families.

Expanding individual retirement accounts not only offered greater personal command over a retirement pension, but also—as BILL forcefully pointed out—a deep pocket for national savings. His campaign over the last year was as determined as it was ultimately successful.

It is so remarkable that a man in the autumn of his own life would be as concerned with the well-being of those whose lives would reach beyond his own.

BILL was a totally committed Member of this body. He would constantly tell me over the phone how the issue ought to be handled during the committee's deliberation. As sick as BILL COTTER was, he wanted to come to Washington to participate in the tax debate last month. It was only on my insistence that he did not return to Washington.

Workingmen and workingwomen, giant financial institutions, and small businesses owe BILL a broad measure of quiet gratitude for initiating such a monumental economic provision.

As chairman of the Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, he left behind an impressive agenda for tax legislation.

BILL was a man of great commonsense. He had a rare sense of what Americans expected from Government. He understood that a steady course was, in the end, wiser and more productive than sudden flights of legislative experiment.

BILL was also a fine politician. He played the game as I like to play the game—straight on. Members of the Committee on Ways and Means knew that when you got a Cotter commitment, it was in stone and when you got BILL COTTER to help or support you in a program, you had a tremendous ally.

I am going to miss BILL. He had the knack of brightening a room when he walked into it.

We ate dinner three times a week for the last 7 years in Washington. Many times at the dinner table when the load was pretty heavy, BILL COTTER in his gentle way would come up with the perfect one liner. He would bring light into a dark conversation.

He was almost an uncle to my children. When my daughters came to visit me here in Washington, it was BILL COTTER who would tease and cajole. He never missed dinner with my family. To my wife

Laverne, my daughters Dawn, Kristie, Gayle, and Stacy, BILL COTTER was, and will in their memories remain, a special kind of person.

To Betty, to the Members of the Connecticut delegation, and to his constituents, I know you will miss him; but I want you to know that I will miss him even more. His good humor, his steadiness, his friendship—and, finally, his bravery—touched us all.

Mr. CONABLE. Mr. Speaker, we all feel diminished when one of our friends crosses the bar and puts out to sea, despite the memories he leaves behind.

I did not have great experience with BILL COTTER in a wide range of places over a long period of time, but my association with him in the Committee on Ways and Means led me to believe that I could tell what kind of a person he would be under all circumstances. He was a man who did not immediately grab you. He was quiet. He seemed deliberative, but I quickly found out in my association with him in the Committee on Ways and Means that it was not because of a lack of understanding or a lack of commitment, but because BILL COTTER wanted to do the right thing and wanted to be sure he arrived at the right decision by a careful process. As such, he was a man who defied those ideological and political cubbyholes that many of us crawl into all too easily. Once he made up his mind, as the chairman has said, you could depend on him; but you would also know that if he made up his mind differently from you, he would remain your friend.

BILL COTTER was the kind of person who helped make this House a human institution and as such he leaves a great many friends behind him. In contributing to the House as a human institution, he has also contributed to his country.

I am sure many of his constituents thought of him not just as a Representative, but as a friend, a warm human being, a decent person and the kind of man who should be serving in government and helping his fellow man.

Mr. O'NEILL. Mr. Speaker, with a sorrowful heart I join my colleagues today in tribute to my beloved friend BILL COTTER.

I knew BILL COTTER for many years before he came to Congress. He was very active in the politics of the State of Connecticut and I met him through the late, great John Bailey who was the guiding force of the Democratic Party in the State of Connecticut and a national chairman of our party. John was BILL's mentor and they were close personal friends and allies.

He served with distinction as an aide to former Governor Ribicoff and as the State insurance commissioner before his election to the House of Representatives in 1970.

BILL had an effervescent personality and could light up the room, as Dan Rostenkowski has said. I guess the Irish in him made him a ribber and a kidder and he loved a good time and he loved fun.

My politics are liberal and BILL was a moderate. He had been a successful businessman and believed that the Government was going too far in many of its programs; yet he was a man of concern and compassion. BILL COTTER truly loved people.

BILL's first love, after his family and his mother who he adored, was politics. He loved the Democratic Party. He loved his native State of Connecticut and the Hartford area from which he came. He loved the life of being with and helping people. He loved the life of working in the background; studying problems, planning solutions. Not often did BILL take the floor, but he was an extremely knowledgeable fellow, and he knew how to move through the committee system, and through the friendships he developed here in the House and the respect and affection his colleagues had for him.

I last talked to BILL just 2 weeks ago. I would call him at least once a week and when they told me that they had stopped the chemotherapy treatments, I became extremely concerned about BILL. So I called him and he told me he was delighted that they had stopped the treatment. He said, "I'm going to lick this."

In my heart I know that BILL truly believed to the end that he was going to lick that dreaded disease of cancer. He was such a beautiful man—he had such personal strength and determination.

We have all been touched by his career here in Washington—by his gentleness, his persuasiveness, his wonderful personality.

My wife, Millie, and the entire O'Neill family joins me in extending to BILL's family our deepest sympathy and our love in this time of great sadness.

Mr. BOLAND. Mr. Speaker, yesterday was a sad day for the State of Connecticut, and the House of Representatives. The people of the First District of Connecticut lost their Congressman and the Members of this House lost a colleague and a friend.

BILL COTTER's death comes as a profound shock and leaves me with a sense of deep personal loss. Our districts are served by the same airport and we frequently traveled to and from Washington together. As my colleagues know, commuting is one of the least enjoyable

aspects of serving in Congress; but I came to look forward to the trips on which I knew I would have BILL's company. He enjoyed talking about the country, and his keen insights and easygoing manner made it a pleasure to travel with him. I have many fond remembrances of the time we spent together. I am only sorry that those times will be no more.

Many Members of this House knew of BILL's struggle with cancer over the last few months. He accepted his illness as another challenge in his life, and I know that he never lost his desire to conquer it. He never complained, but went quietly about the business of overcoming his illness with the same type of determination that characterized his work in Congress. I received a letter from him just yesterday in which he thanked me for some encouragement he felt I had given him and mentioned some concerns of his constituents that he wanted to address. I think that what bothered BILL most about his illness was not the physical discomfort it brought him, but the fact that it robbed him of the opportunity to be in Washington working for the people of the city of Hartford whom he loved so much.

Mr. Speaker, BILL COTTER served in this House for 10 years. His approach was low key rather than flamboyant but he was an effective spokesman for, and Representative of, the people of Connecticut. He never had a bad word for anyone. The people that sent him here on five occasions, and the people with whom he served, trusted and respected him. His absence will be felt in the days ahead as we attempt to deal with the economic issues on which he was so well versed and in which he took such an interest.

I want to extend my profound sympathies to BILL's sister, Betty, on her loss. That loss is shared by all the citizens of Connecticut. BILL's death, coming within a relatively short time after the death, from cancer, of former Gov. Ella Grasso, deprives Connecticut of two of her best loved and most effective political leaders. It deprives this Congress of one of its hardest working and most dependable Members. It deprives this Nation of an outstanding public official.

Mr. ROUSSELOT. Mr. Speaker, I have known BILL COTTER primarily through my membership on the Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs and most recently on the Ways and Means Committee. I followed BILL to the Ways and Means Committee in 1978, after having served with him for 4 years on the Banking Committee. I knew him to be an extremely reliable and obviously dedicated member of both of these hard working and demanding committees.

As has already been clearly stated, BILL COTTER was not an overly flamboyant or, indeed a verbally noisy Member of the House of Representatives, but he was always on the job and consistently provided knowledgeable input to the legislative process.

As a consequence, BILL did not always make the evening news and was not as well known publicly, except in his own district, as some of our other Members. But he was there. He was always on the job. He knew well the laws relating to both of those committees and, of course, all of the issues facing his own congressional district.

He genuinely understood our complex tax laws, as our chairman of the Ways and Means Committee has already stated. BILL COTTER was very much a part of the draftsmanship of the recently passed tax bill. And it is interesting to note that many of his proposals were contained in both the Democrat version as well as the Republican version of the tax bill. And I think that fact speaks well for his legislative craftsmanship and his capability as an active participant in the whole process of our Ways and Means Committee.

BILL, of course, contributed mightily to the understanding that our Americans serving overseas need relief from undue taxation being placed upon them, and he made sure that those changes were contained in our recent tax bill.

He was, as has already been stated by our chairman, very active in incentives for retirement, for our entire American populace, and again made sure that those changes were in our tax bill. He is definitely to be credited for his persistence in that area.

Although these are the most well known, there were many other positions that he took in which he crafted the tax bill.

It has been a genuine pleasure to serve with BILL COTTER. His office, incidentally, has been just around the corner from mine. Our offices exchanged not only smiles but ideas in many ways. And, of course, on given occasions we answered the phones for each other. There were just so many ways in which I got to know BILL COTTER as an office neighbor so much better than I had known him even during our close committee work.

I think the best way I can summarize the character of BILL COTTER is to say that he served this Congress, this country, with quiet dignity, and with a sense of dedicated service that you very seldom see among public officeholders. I know that we will all genuinely and sincerely miss BILL COTTER and his service to this fine body. We know our Ways and Means Committee will miss him. We know his family will

miss him. We know his district will certainly miss him. We know the country will miss him. America has lost a fine and dedicated public servant.

Mr. JONES of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, it is a great deal of sadness for me to participate in this occasion on the passing of BILL COTTER. I had the privilege of sitting near BILL COTTER. He sat two seats away from me on the Ways and Means Committee. We came on the committee at the same time. From that vantage point, you can size up an individual both as an individual and as a legislator. And in both respects BILL COTTER measured to the very highest degree.

He literally epitomized what former Speaker Sam Rayburn used to describe as his favorite legislator, the workhorse. He was a workhorse in every sense of the word. He never lost sight of where he came from. As has already been pointed out, he loved Hartford, the people of Hartford. He did their work here in the Congress and represented them well.

I had an occasion one time to speak at a tax conference sponsored by the university there in Hartford, and met a number of people, Democrats and Republicans alike. Without exception, every one of them had only the kindest thoughts and respect for BILL COTTER. I think that speaks well of him as representing his district.

But he was also a national legislator. He put his Nation first, what was good for his Nation. And in that respect, particularly on the Ways and Means Committee, he added his past experience in business as well as politics to improve the quality of the legislation that affected this Nation.

I recall in 1978, when we in the Democratic Party were somewhat divided over the direction of tax policy, that BILL COTTER was one of those who was of great counsel to me personally in trying to put together the kinds of tax policies that would enable the economy of this country to begin moving again in a direction of real economic growth. So he truly was a national legislator in every respect.

I guess there are many words to describe BILL COTTER that have been used already today. Honesty—clearly his personal and political life was marked by honesty in every way. Decency—whether you were with him on an issue or whether he was opposing you on an issue, you could always count on him being decent and gracious in the political battle that ensued. Thorough—he did do his homework before he made up his mind, and did not shoot from the hip and make a rash statement that he later had to retract.

I suppose the word that describes him even greater in these last few months was that of courage. Very, very few people had any idea of the agony, of the pain, of the illness that he was going through. He faced that illness with courage, with optimism, and he was always a source of strength to those around him, even in his most painful days in the last few months.

So BILL COTTER will be missed. He is going to be missed by all of us who had the privilege of serving with him. But in having that privilege, we know that he served as a beacon, as a true symbol and example of what public service is all about.

He leaves a very great legacy to this body, to the people of Connecticut and to the United States.

Mr. MYERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank our colleagues from Connecticut for taking time and giving us an opportunity to express our deep regrets at the loss of a great friend.

Through the years, with each new elected class, we see a variety of different personalities, different individuals who arrive here to serve their country. We are inclined to judge those individuals and try to project what type of Member they are going to be. I think that is something we all fall victim to.

I remember when BILL arrived here, he was different, different in a very kind and good way. He was not one of those self-assuming, taking the well frequently, speaking on issues that he knew little about. But he was one, as many have said here today, who was concerned about his country and concerned about his responsibility that he was assuming here as he took the role as a Member of Congress from Connecticut.

I never had the opportunity to serve on a committee with BILL, but observing with him here and talking to him on the floor on issues, I found him well founded. As has been said, he was truly a legislator's legislator. He was not a politician, but he was most successful in his own way in Connecticut.

He certainly will be missed by his many friends here. He will be missed by each of us, and I know he will be missed by his constituency in his district of Connecticut, by his State of Connecticut, and he will be missed by the people of our country who have lost a great legislator, and we have lost a great friend.

Mr. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, I served on the Ways and Means Committee with my friend BILL COTTER. I know no man who wore

the mantle of public service without pomp or pretense any more effectively than he did.

He had a quiet disregard for cant and self-promotion. In these days when the best often believe their own press releases and the worst continue to lack conviction, BILL COTTER was steady, smooth as a stone, a great tribute to our representative form of government.

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, I think all the members of the Ways and Means Committee would agree that the passing of BILL COTTER has to be reminiscent somewhat of the passing of our dearly departed colleague, Bill Steiger. There was something, some quality that was common between them. It has been described here concerning BILL COTTER today—the quietness, the warmness, and above all the friendliness, the encouragement to disagree agreeably, was very much in both of them. Bill Steiger has been sorely missed, and BILL COTTER will be sorely missed, too.

In the case of BILL COTTER, the man was modest, but the talents were not. When I think of BILL COTTER, I think of the almost perfect balance between the person and the organization man. Nobody I have served with in the years I have been privileged to serve in the House of Representatives better personifies the prayer of Peter Marshall:

> O God, help us remember that there have been those who have fought their way into oblivion while others have forgotten themselves into immortality.

BILL COTTER usually sat right over in that part of the Chamber. Almost anybody here who knew and loved him can picture right now that quick smile, almost impish smile, at the suggestion of a joke. Even if you got off a bad joke, he was kind enough to grant you a little smile about it because he knew what you were getting at.

Finally, I think of the words of Edwin Markham on the death of Lincoln, considering BILL's tender years—only the good die young and all that—who wrote:

> And when he fell in whirlwind he went down, as when a lordly cedar goes down with a great shout upon the hills and leaves a lonesome place against the sky.

There will be a lonesome place in this Chamber forever, or at least so long as any person living now in this Chamber lives in this Chamber.

I express my sympathy to BILL's family, and that includes most notably the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Danny Rostenkowski.

Mr. EARLY. Mr. Speaker, let me briefly say that in my 7 years in this body I have met many Members for whom I have great admiration. In my opinion, I have met no legislator at the National or State level whom I held in higher esteem than BILL COTTER. BILL COTTER was a truly effective national legislator. He was a tremendous credit to the people of his First District and the State of Connecticut and an outstanding public servant to the Nation.

He had a very low-keyed style, and was not the public release type of legislator, but no Member of Congress did more for his constituents and for his country than BILL COTTER.

It has been a great honor for me to know BILL COTTER as a friend and colleague. His courageous spirit, his cordial personality, and his wise counsel will be long and deeply missed by all who knew him. The country has lost an exceptionally efficient and dedicated public servant who will be sorely missed in these troubled times.

Mr. SHANNON. Mr. Speaker, BILL COTTER and I served on the Ways and Means Committee together. When I was a new Member, his help to me was generous, and his advice invaluable. I worked with him on issues that were of particular concern to New England. I always had his guidance and he always had my respect.

Mr. COTTER was a gentleman. When he spoke, his colleagues listened, because they always valued an opinion of his. His death is a loss to me personally, because we were friends. But it is also a loss, a great loss, to the people he represented so well, to his State of Connecticut, and to this country.

Mr. RUSSO. Mr. Speaker, today is a sad day. We have lost an excellent Congressman and friend.

As was stated here today, BILL COTTER was a low key individual. You know, there are some individuals who come to Congress who are destined to be the flamboyant, the headline grabbers of the Congress, of the Nation. BILL COTTER was not such an individual—but that does not make BILL COTTER any less effective than those individuals you read about in the headlines. In fact, people like BILL COTTER are what holds this Congress together. Such an individual brings us together. He blends and melds his ideas and opinion from throughout the political spectrum. The Bill Cotters of this Congress are the ones who are able to construct the consensus and shape the necessary compromises. Our political system with its great diversity could not survive without such skillful technicans. He knew how to get a

job done and did not demand or need applause or attention—he cared about what he was doing and was simply conscientious.

BILL was effective; BILL was hard-working. He had a great and well-deserved reputation for doing what was in the best interests of this country. He had the innate ability and talent to represent the blue-collar workers of East Hartford and Windsor, and the white-collar workers of West Hartford.

And what greater tribute can you pay—BILL was a man of his word. As the chairman of our committee Mr. Rostenkowski said, once you received a BILL COTTER commitment, it was set in stone. With BILL you knew where he stood and thus he had the trust and confidence of his colleagues.

I considered it a great honor and privilege to have been BILL COTTER's friend, and as someone who spent some time at the dinner tables with the chairman and BILL, it was certainly good to have someone there who had a great sense of honor.

BILL COTTER will be greatly missed by many people; his family, his friends, his colleagues, and his constituents.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, this is a sad day not only for the Members of the Congress, but a sad day for America. BILL COTTER was one of the kindest and finest men that it has been my privilege to know since I have been in the Congress.

BILL was chairman of the Select Revenue Subcommittee and I am the ranking Republican member of that subcommittee. Early in the year, BILL called me and wanted to make sure that I was going to serve on the subcommittee, and we discussed various things we might do cooperatively. BILL was a good adversary when it was necessary, but he was also a man who could read through things and work for the benefit of all the people.

We are going to miss BILL and his friendly atmosphere that he always created whenever he came to the committee.

I offer the family my greatest sympathy.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a friend and colleague, BILL COTTER.

I had the privilege of serving with BILL on the Ways and Means Committee since 1975. I came to know him as a quiet spoken man—and forceful advocate for the people of his district and, indeed, for all the people of our country.

BILL COTTER was a man of dignity and a man of honor. I will miss his leadership and his guidance in the days ahead.

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr Speaker, of course, serving on the Ways and Means Committee with BILL COTTER was a rich experience, BILL was a hard worker, a quiet person, a very capable person, and a persistent person. As my colleague from California, Mr. Stark, has said, he possessed a good sense of humor. He was cooperative; he had a special thing about him that is hard to describe, but BILL COTTER was a great man.

He was always one who was punctual to meetings. He never kept one waiting by being tardy himself. He always had something to contribute, and without trying to monopolize the debate or the conversation.

He voted a good, sound vote, one that showed that he understood the issue and understood the problem and represented his people of Connecticut extremely well.

I pay final tribute to him with a great deal of sorrow. We need more people like BILL COTTER in the United States and in government. I am sure that he will be missed by every Member of our House of Representatives who had the opportunity to know him. He will certainly be missed by his colleagues on the Ways and Means Committee, and we extend our deepest sympathy to those who survive him and to his colleagues and personal friends.

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. Speaker, those of us who were friendly with BILLY COTTER knew for some time the inevitability of this day. That knowledge does not reduce the sense of sadness and loss we all feel.

BILL was a good and decent man who served his State and his Nation well, and I know that he was one of the finest people I ever met. He made a substantial contribution to this institution. He brought a human element to his committee work and to his work here on the floor, and even though I just had a short 3 years to get to know BILL, the personal sense of loss I feel today has been articulated by many people who have preceded me at this microphone.

I join my friends in passing on my condolences to BILL's sister and to the other members of the Cotter family.

Mr. BIAGGI. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sense of profound sadness that I pay tribute to our colleague BILL COTTER who succumbed to cancer yesterday at the age of 55. His death deprives this House of one of its most effective and respected Members—and me of a good and valued friend.

BILL COTTER and I became close friends during the years when we had neighboring offices in the Cannon Building. We would see each other on a daily basis and I recall many pleasant moments of conversation and comradery.

For 11 years, BILL COTTER provided the highest quality of representation for the people of the First Congressional District of Connecticut. BILL was a lifelong native of the First District born, raised, and educated in Hartford, Conn., the major city within the district. Prior to his election to the House in 1970, BILL served with great distinction as insurance commissioner for the State of Connecticut.

While in the House, BILL was an invaluable member of the House Ways and Means Committee. He was one of the panel's most trusted members. He was an ardent and articulate advocate of tax reform and played important roles in numerous pieces of legislation which have emerged from that committee in the past decade. From tax reform to medicare and medicaid reform to the establishment of title XX—BILL COTTER made regular and important contributions to all of these legislative products. Further, as chairman of the Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, BILL COTTER was a pioneer in the effort to bring fiscal responsibility to the Federal Government.

BILL COTTER's career in Congress was replete with accomplishments and he will be remembered by many of us as a shining example of what a Member of Congress should be. I mourn his passing, but take solace in the fact that he will be remembered for years by present and future Members of this great body.

Mr. HOLLAND. Mr. Speaker, it has been my privilege to serve with BILL COTTER on the Ways and Means Committee and as ranking member of the subcommittee which he chaired. I came to know him as a man of compassion and understanding shortly after I was put on the Ways and Means Committee.

I was just walking over here across these Capitol Grounds and thinking about all the great people who have passed through this institution and all the great names and personalities that we have produced for history and for eternity, and I cannot think of one that I knew, loved, and respected any more than this great man from Connecticut. We were indeed fortunate as men and women dedicated to the institutions of this great Nation to have him as our friend and our ally. I know that I join the Connecticut delegation in saying that

we will miss him grievously, and we hope that his memory and his activities here will somehow continue to level the things we do, to impart his rationality to us by having been one of us.

Mr. MOFFETT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to relate one brief anecdote.

BILL's district and mine are neighboring districts, and there is a town that is on the border, and every year in Connecticut in this town called Windsor, Conn., we have something called, the Shad Derby Parade.

As has been said, BILL was a low key member of the delegation who had not sought a great deal of media attention. We were marching in that parade just a couple of years ago, and there was a tremendous round of applause as BILL and I, out in front of the parade, went down the street. I soon became aware that the applause was for BILL COTTER, and that BILL COTTER had people yelling out, "Hey, BILLY, nice to see you, BILLY."

It was an interesting lesson for me. I remember what he said. He said jokingly, "I guess it is because of my tremendous media coverage."

He had that kind of humor, a kind of self-depreciation, if you will, that could be very, very pleasant.

Mr. McKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, as a classmate of BILLY's, as a good friend, as a member of the Connecticut delegation, he would want us to remember him with a sense of humor. He used to quite often say to me after a Ways and Means Committee Meeting, "You know, we have our superstars," and obviously the Ways and Means Committee had a lot of those.

I remember after Dan Rostenkowski and Barber Conable had been on television on one great debate or another, BILLY used to say, "Remember me, I am BILL COTTER," when I talked to him on the phone. He missed being here! He was that kind of guy. Do not worry BILL, we always will remember you; there is no question about that.

Mr. MOFFETT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to announce that plans are now being worked on for an Air Force plane to fly out of Andrews Air Force Base, probably at 10 o'clock on Friday, with some arrangements for Members to leave from the Capitol at 9 or 9:30. Other details on the funeral itself will be forthcoming and will be available for any of the Connecticut delegation members.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, all of us are deeply saddened to learn of the death of the gentleman from Connecticut. BILL COTTER was a fine and decent man and a dedicated public servant; his constituents and this House have suffered a great loss.

His brave struggle over recent months has been watched with admiration and sympathy by his many friends. Although his fight against death has ended, we will all remember him for facing death with the dignity and bravery for which he was known in life.

BILL made an outstanding contribution to the House during the decade he served here and was an exceptionally able and useful member of the Committee on Ways and Means. His selection at the beginning of this term as chairman of the subcommittee responsible for tax measures enabled him to bring the full weight of his knowledge and judgment to bear on this important area and it is indeed tragic to see his career cut short when his leadership in this area was so vitally needed.

Mr. Speaker, the House has lost one of its finest Members and I hope his family can take some comfort from knowing the esteem and fondness with which BILL will always be remembered here.

Mr. ANNUNZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to the Honorable WILLIAM R. COTTER, who represented the First District of Connecticut since 1971. The death of my distinguished colleague has left a void in this House, for he served his Connecticut constituents and the American people with devotion and dedication.

BILL COTTER was my friend and I had the privilege of serving with him when he was a member of the House Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs Committee, where he was one of the most capable members of that committee. His distinguished career of public service will long be remembered by all of us who had the good fortune of knowing him and working with him.

Congressman COTTER compiled a splendid record of excellence, and his diligent efforts as a member of the House Ways and Means Committee and as its chairman of the Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures were both fruitful and beneficial to the citizens of this Nation, and indeed, these successful efforts have made America a stronger and better country.

Few men gave more of themselves to good Government, or had a more compassionate understanding of human problems than did BILL COTTER. He began his career of leadership as a member of Hartford's

Court of Common Council, and then served as an aide to Gov. Abraham Ribicoff from 1955 to 1957. In 1957 he became Connecticut's deputy insurance commissioner, and from 1964 to 1970, when he was elected to the 92d Congress, he served as the State's commissioner of insurance.

BILL was a fine legislator and a distinguished leader of becoming personal modesty, and he will be missed here in the House of Representatives.

Mrs. Annunzio and I extend our deepest sympathy to his sister, Betty, and her husband, Mr. Joseph Adinolfi.

Mr. RODINO. Mr. Speaker, the Nation has lost one of its most conscientious and compassionate statesmen. BILL COTTER's death yesterday was a terrible blow to me and to all of us who knew this kind and gentle man.

For 10 years he devoted himself to being the best possible Congressman for the people of Connecticut. He was deeply committed to the highest ideals of public service—honesty, integrity, and sensitivity for the needs of all the people. BILL's sincere dedication to his work earned him the trust and confidence of his colleagues and his constituents.

As a Congressman he was unpretentious yet highly effective. His work on the Ways and Means Committee was marked by his concern for the average American instead of the special interests.

As a man he was warm and friendly. He cared about people.

BILL COTTER was a friend who I respected and admired. I am deeply saddened by his death. My sympathies go out to his family.

Mr. CONTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with my colleagues in paying respects and expressing my deep sorrow on the passing of my good friend and New England colleague, BILL COTTER. A Member of this body for 11 years, BILL was an effective legislator and conscientious member of the Ways and Means Committee, where he chaired the Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures.

I had the opportunity to work with BILL through the New England Congressional Caucus, where he exhibited his concerns for his constituents needs in Connecticut, for those in the wealthy suburbs of Hartford, those in the blue-collar communities ringing the city, as well as the inner-city poor of Hartford. He represented his people with an even hand and an open mind, and he will be sorely missed by his colleagues in the House.

I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to his family and his district on the loss of his voice in this Congress.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in paying tribute to our late colleague, the gentleman from Connecticut, the Honorable WILLIAM COTTER.

BILL COTTER, was an able, dedicated, and knowledgeable Member of the House. He provided unparalleled service to his colleagues and conscientious attention to the need for responsible legislation for the Nation as a whole, achieving the kind of fine balance between those two responsibilities that all of us continually seek to shoulder. His outstanding mastery of tax legislation and tax policy has been noted by his colleagues on the Committee on Ways and Means who worked closely with him.

Coming to the House of Representatives in 1970, BILL COTTER's election followed a distinguished career in State government, culminating in his service as the commissioner of insurance where he had to oversee his State's large and important insurance industry. Before State service, BILL served as a member of the Common Council at Hartford, Conn. His service in State and local government helped mold him into the fine legislator that he was.

I join with my colleagues in expressing sincere condolences to the Cotter family. BILL has left a significant imprint on his colleagues in the House. Those of us who held him in high personal regard will miss him very much.

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I am saddened today as I join with my colleagues in this Chamber since we have lost a dedicated public servant, and good friend, BILL COTTER of Connecticut. I was shocked to learn of his death, and I know that I am expressing the sentiments of all who knew him in stating that America has lost the service of an able legislator and an effective leader.

BILL came to the House in 1971, and served as a member of the important House Ways and Means Committee. As such, he was in a position to carry the concerns of the working American family straight to the one committee in the House with probably the most impact over the day-to-day economic problems facing this Nation's people. He was a quietly effective advocate of policy and legislation that would help Americans secure the lifestyle they wanted and deserved. He never lost touch with the truly needy, and exhibited a keen sense of appreciation for the interests of those people confronting the economic difficulties so apparent in our society.

I was always impressed by his attitude and sense of purpose. He was a legislative workhorse who welcomed a tough task and worked diligently to find a solution benefiting this Nation and its people. He will be missed greatly in this Chamber, just as his example will be missed. It would be a fitting tribute to him that we dedicate ourselves to the continuation of the good work he epitomized in the House.

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I learned of the death of BILL COTTER who was one of the most able legislators I have ever known. He was a man whose everyday demeanor not only made him many friends in this body but it was a demeanor that engendered respect.

I personally admired him and enjoyed an excellent friendship with him. I admired him for the stand that he took on liberal issues in this body. He was not afraid to stand up for what was right and in standing up for what was right he was always on the side of minorities, the poor, the disadvantaged, and others who needed help.

In recalling my own personal relationship with him, I remembered the interest he took in the investigation into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. After I was appointed chairman of the investigation, I recall the interest he took in our work in several conversations we had relative to the investigation. In those conversations, he expressed a real hope that we would be able to solve many of the rumors, many of the lingering and troublesome questions surrounding that assassination. He had tremendous love and admiration for President John F. Kennedy.

I suppose the characteristic about BILL COTTER which most sticks out in my mind was his sincerity. Whenever I talked with him about any matter, his sincerity always impressed me.

I did not have the opportunity to personally know the other members of his family. However, I would like to take this opportunity to extend to each of them my sympathies and condolences in memory of this distinguished legislator. They can be proud of the life and accomplishments of BILL COTTER. He will be remembered by all who knew him as an outstanding legislator and a great American.

Mr. GUARINI. Mr. Speaker, today I join my colleagues in the House in mourning the death of Congressman WILLIAM COTTER of Connecticut.

BILL COTTER served with distinction on the Ways and Means Committee for many years. As a member of the upper tier of senior mem-

bers of the committee, he was someone I learned early on to look to for counsel and guidance. We shared some of the same legislative interests: in tuition tax credit and pension reform bills.

The Ways and Means Committee is a contentious assembly, with vigorous exchanges on every issue before the committee. Such was BILL COTTER's stature in the committee that, although he had been ill for some months, his ideas continued to be a force in the committee's deliberations on the tax bill. In what is an enviable measure of the man, portions of his comprehensive pension reform legislation were included in the tax bill just signed by the President.

My only regret, and it is one that I share with all of my colleagues on the Ways and Means Committee, is that BILL COTTER did not remain with us longer. We will deeply miss his thoughtful contributions in our legislative work and I join my colleagues in extending deepest sympathies to his family and friends.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to our departed colleague WILLIAM ROSS COTTER better known as BILL to those of us who knew him and had the honor of working closely with him. BILL and I both came onto the Ways and Means Committee at the beginning of the 94th Congress and it is certainly going to be strange for me to go back into the committee room knowing my good friend will no longer be there to provide his wise counsel on the issues which will come before us.

We went through many a battle together. The Tax Reform Acts of 1975, 1976, and 1978, the Windfall Profit Act, the Estate and Gift Reform Act of 1976, the Mortgage Revenue Bond Act, and so forth. To each of these, BILL brought his unique insights which almost always centered around a compassion for working class and middle income Americans. He was certainly proud of the reforms that we instituted prior to the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981. I know that what the Congress passed this year was a great disappointment to him. He had spent so much of his time in Congress working to close loopholes for the rich, and the legislation we passed this year which not only undid the work he had dedicated the last 7 years of his life to, but also went further to place a greater proportion of the tax burden on the middle class.

By the time we began work on the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981, BILL was already too sick to participate in the direction of the legislation. However, one area of the bill does very much reflect BILL COTTER's thinking and serves as a fitting memorial to this dedicated

public servant. Prior to being elected to Congress in 1970, BILL served from 1957 to 1970 in the Connecticut Insurance Department becoming commissioner in 1964. During that time he became extremely sensitive to the financial needs of retired Americans. From the time he came on the Ways and Means Committee, he was an outspoken advocate for tax deductions for individual and employer retirement plans. In the 97th Congress, he introduced legislation to reform the system and expand its availability to more Americans, thus insuring a secure financial picture for retirees. Many, if not the bulk of his suggestions were adopted by the committee and finally became law when the President signed the bill just a few weeks before BILL COTTER died.

We on the Ways and Means Committee who have worked so closely with BILL are certainly going to miss him. The Congress as an institution has lost one of its key Members. I know that I have certainly lost a dear friend and respected colleague.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.
The resolution was agreed to.
A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Murtha). Pursuant to House Resolution 206, the Chair appoints as members of the funeral committee of the late WILLIAM R. COTTER the following Members on the part of the House; Mr. McKinney of Connecticut; Mr. O'Neill of Massachusetts; Mr. Foley of Washington; Mr. Moffett of Connecticut; Mr. Ratchford of Connecticut; Mr. DeNardis of Connecticut; Mr. Gejdenson of Connecticut; Mr. Boland of Massachusetts; Mr. Conte of Massachusetts; Mr. Rostenkowski of Illinois; Mr. St Germain of Rhode Island; Mr. Pickle of Texas; Mr. Duncan of Tennessee; Mr. Alexander of Arkansas; Mr. Rousselot of California; Mr. Moakley of Massachusetts; Mr. Stark of California; Mr. Murtha of Pennsylvania; Mr. Early of Massachusetts; Mr. Russo of Illinois; Mr. Schulze of Pennsylvania; Mr. Fowler of Georgia; Mr. Anthony of Arkansas; Mr. Donnelly of Massachusetts; Mr. Guarini of New Jersey; Mr. Shannon of Massachusetts; Mr. de Lugo of the Virgin Islands; Mr. Ford of Michigan; Mr. Frenzel of Minnesota; Mr. Jones of Oklahoma; Mr. Gradison of Ohio; Mr. Moore of Louisiana; Mr. Gephardt of Missouri; Mr. Jenkins of Georgia; and Mr. Hance of Texas.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair lays before the House a message from the Senate on Senate Resolution 208.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Sparrow, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agreed to the following resolution:

SENATE RESOLUTION 208

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of the Honorable WILLIAM R. COTTER, late a Representative from the State of Connecticut.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed by the Presiding Officer to join the committee appointed on the part of the House of Representatives to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the Senate recesses today, it recess as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative.

Mr. NATCHER. Mr. Speaker, in our time, giants have walked the face of the Earth. My friend, WILLIAM R. COTTER was one among them. He distinguished himself in the service of his country and to all mankind. He labored with dedication, devotion, and with a passion on the ramparts of individual freedom, honesty, and constitutional government.

He served in the House of Representatives with distinction and honor. He loved the House of Representatives and he believed that our country is the greatest country in the world.

BILL COTTER established a record as a Member of Congress that will long be remembered in the State of Connecticut and throughout this country. His name will be known in all time to come, at home and in the far corners of the Earth for his monumental works in behalf of representative government which is the source and the protectant of all human liberties in all nations where freedom prevails.

Our friend had become an inspiration, a symbol of power, and an outstanding member of his Committee on Ways and Means, one of the major committees in the House of Representatives. His character, his achievements and his faithful service will be an inspiration to generations yet to come.

I have lost a true friend and this country has lost a great statesman. I extend my deepest sympathy to the members of his family.

Mr. ZABLOCKI. Mr. Speaker, I was deeply saddened to learn of the untimely death of our distinguished and beloved colleague, the Honorable WILLIAM R. COTTER of Connecticut, and I would like to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by numerous Members

of this body—about his life, his rare personal qualities, and his outstanding legislative accomplishments.

There is little of substance I can add to the very eloquent tributes to BILL COTTER, which were made earlier by a number of his closest friends—on both sides of the aisle.

His contribution as a senior and highly respected member of the Committee on Ways and Means is well known—particularly his most recent, successful effort to expand the individual retirement accounts in the Economic Recovery Act just signed by the President. As Chairman Rostenkowski has pointed out, BILL COTTER was a voice of reason and moderation on that important committee—always working toward a judicious and meaningful compromise, in the full knowledge that there is no substitute for quiet, patient, and persistent negotiation in the legislative process.

As many of our colleagues have noted, BILL COTTER was devoted to the House as an institution and embodied its most honored and exalted traditions. Above all, however, he was a loyal and effective representative of his Hartford constituency which he has served for over a decade with great dedication and distinction.

To those constituents, to his family and many admirers throughout the Nation I extend my deepest and most profound sympathy.

Mr. FORD of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, a loyal and distinguished Member has left us. In his 11-year House career, many of us came to depend on the wisdom and thoughtfulness of WILLIAM COTTER. As the chairman of the Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, he held a great affection for his home city of Hartford and the citizens of Connecticut. He was a loyal Democrat of whom many of us could rely for steady and able direction and a strong sense of what the grassroots was feeling.

His commitment to his country and service in this House were unmatched. It is with a great deal of pride and sorrow that I join my colleagues in mourning our beloved friend, BILL COTTER.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. WILLIAMS of Montana. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.), pursuant to House Resolution 206, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, September 10, 1981, at 10 a.m. in memory of the late WILLIAM R. COTTER of Connecticut.

Proceedings in the Senate

THURSDAY, *September 10, 1981.*

Mr. BAKER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of a resolution, on behalf of the senior Senator from Connecticut (Mr. Weicker), for himself and the junior Senator from Connecticut (Mr. Dodd).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will be stated.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

SENATE RESOLUTION 208

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of the Honorable WILLIAM R. COTTER, late a Representative from the State of Connecticut.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed by the Presiding Officer to join the committee appointed on the part of the House of Representatives to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the Senate recesses today, it recess as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative.

Without objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. WEICKER. Mr. President, good men are deserving of praise. BILL COTTER was a good man and a dedicated legislator. He arrived in Washington in 1971 and immediately set about his work as Representative of Connecticut's First District with determination and quiet dignity. BILL worked hard to serve the needs of all the people in his district, from those in Hartford's affluent suburbs to the poor of the inner city. They rewarded him for his efforts by returning him to office five times.

Recently, BILL COTTER was responsible for the expansion of individual retirement accounts. He was aware that private pensions and social security often fail to meet the full needs of retired workers and their families. His proposal now means that individuals will have a greater control of their future financial stability.

BILL's commitment to his work can be seen in his desire, despite his grave condition, to return to Washington to vote on the Economic Recovery Act, which included the proposal on which he had worked so diligently.

Only the strong insistence of his friends and doctors kept him from casting his vote in support of the bill that was to be signed into law only weeks before his untimely death on September 8.

Mr. President, I first met BILL during the campaign of 1970. Instead of a traditional rivalry between Democrats and Republicans, a friendship was born. BILL COTTER quietly and effectively represented the aspirations of Connecticut's First District. His constituents will miss the Congressman. I will miss the man.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to the resolution, the Chair appoints the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. Dodd) as a member of the funeral committee on the part of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair lays before the Senate a message from the House on House Resolution 206.

At 2:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Berry, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to a resolution relative to the death of the Honorable WILLIAM R. COTTER, a Representative from the State of Connecticut.

RECESS

Mr. BAKER. Mr. President, in accordance with the previous order, and pursuant to the provisions of Senate Resolution 208, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased WILLIAM R. COTTER, late a Representative from the State of Connecticut, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess until 9 a.m. tomorrow.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4:23 p.m., recessed until tomorrow, Friday, September 11, 1981, at 9 a.m.

Memorial services held in the House Main
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